

(a) the normal practice followed by the Bokaro Steel Plant for awarding contracts;

(b) whether there has been any deviation from the normal practice in recent days; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Contracts are awarded on the basis of technically acceptable offers as recommended by a Tender Committee constituted for the purpose.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Telegraph Offices with Hindi facility

4110. SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of telegraph offices in the country along with the number of those in which facility to send and receive telegrams in Hindi is available;

(b) the number of telegraph offices in which English teleprinters have been provided but Hindi teleprinters have not been provided there; and

(c) the number of such telegraph offices in which teleprinters in Hindi have been provided but either these have not been installed or are out of order?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) There are 43933 telegraph offices in the country, out of which 21332 telegraph offices have facility to send and receive telegrams in Hindi.

(b) There are 868 telegraph offices in which only English teleprinters have been provided.

(c) There is no telegraph office in the country in which Hindi teleprinter has been provided but is not installed or out of order.

[Translation]

Waiting list of Telephone Connections in U.P.

4112. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons in waiting list to get telephone connections in Uttar Pradesh, district-wise; and

(b) the time by which telephone connections are likely to be provided?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The districtwise waiting list information as on 30th Sept. 91 has been given in the attached Statement.

(b) The objective of draft 8th Five Year Plan (1992-97) of the department for providing telephone connections is to:-

- provide telephone practically on demand in the rural and tribal areas and
- to contain the waiting list to two years period in charge telephone systems.

With the above objective, plans have been drawn to provide telephone connections to the waiting list applicants progressively during the 8th Plan period.